The opinion in support of the decision being entered today was <u>not</u> written for publication and is <u>not</u> binding precedent of the Board.

Paper No. 32

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte PREETI LAL, KARL J. GUEGLER and NEIL C. CORLEY

Appeal No. 2002-1561 Application No. 09/397,558 MAILED

JUL 0 8 2002

PAT. & T.M. OFFICE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

REMAND TO THE EXAMINER

A Reply Brief (Paper No. 30) and a Declaration in the name of Lars Michael Furness (Paper No. 31) was filed on June 6, 2002. The examiner has not seen these papers. The Reply Brief needs to be considered by the examiner with respect to compliance with the criteria set forth in 37 CFR § 1.193(b)(1).

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application be <u>remanded</u> to the examiner for appropriate consideration of the Reply Brief, the Declaration in the name of Lars Michael Furness, and for such further action as may be appropriate.

This application, by virtue of its "special" status, requires an immediate action, see Manual of Patent Examining Procedure § 708.01 (Eighth Edition, Aug. 2001), item (D).

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It is important that the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences be promptly informed of any action affecting the appeal in this case.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

By

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